



# CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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25 NOVEMBER 1965

~~TOP SECRET~~

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1. Congo

All is reported quiet in the wake of General Mobutu's takeover in Leopoldville this morning. Nor does effective resistance seem likely in the immediate future, although Mobutu's move almost certainly will be denounced by radical African governments, especially neighboring Congo Brazzaville.

Mobutu has announced that he is now president for the constitutional five year term. He has named Colonel Mulamba, one of the few Congolese army officers who have been really effective, as premier. Both men are close friends of the West.

Mobutu says he was pressed to act by fellow senior officers, but he is more likely to have come to believe that taking over himself was the only way out of the impasse between Tshombe and ex-President Kasavubu. Mobutu overthrew Lumumba's regime in somewhat similar circumstances five years ago.

Tshombe has told our embassy that he is delighted with developments. It is problematical how long he will remain in this frame of mind, given his own ambitions for the presidency. Kasavubu was still at liberty, as of last report. He may try to rally his tribal supporters in the Leopoldville area, but even here his popularity is reported to have slipped of late.

2. Panama

A three day general strike which Communists and other opponents of the government have hoped to exploit got off to a poor start yesterday. Government security forces acted effectively, and the situation was still quiet this morning.

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3. Dominican Republic      Garcia Godoy's removal of leftist Attorney General Morel Cerda has led the top military leaders to withdraw another of their threats to resign.

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4. Rhodesia

A British official has given our embassy in London a strong impression that the Wilson government will take more decisive measures against Rhodesia in the future. He says London fears that if it does not keep the initiative the radical Africans will move in with disastrous results.

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5. Vietnam

No significant new developments have been reported.

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